



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

VOLUME #27 / ISSUE #3

LADIES' DAY Fall/Winter 2000 Roundup

It is the year of the lady. She is everywhere – uptown at Michael Kors and Carolina Herrera, and downtown at Marc Jacobs, Diane Von Furstenberg, and Tuleh.

Uptown, Kors does a literal take with his collection "10021," named after the New York City zip code and home to the very wealthy, as does

Herrera. Downtowners serve it up with a twist. With its rich tweeds, cashmere, fur, prints and color, "the lady" is a good look and one that should make retailers happy.

Hair and makeup contribute significantly. Uptown the operative word is grooming. The emphasis is on red or flesh-toned lipstick and smoky eyes in shades of

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THE LEADERS IN LUXE

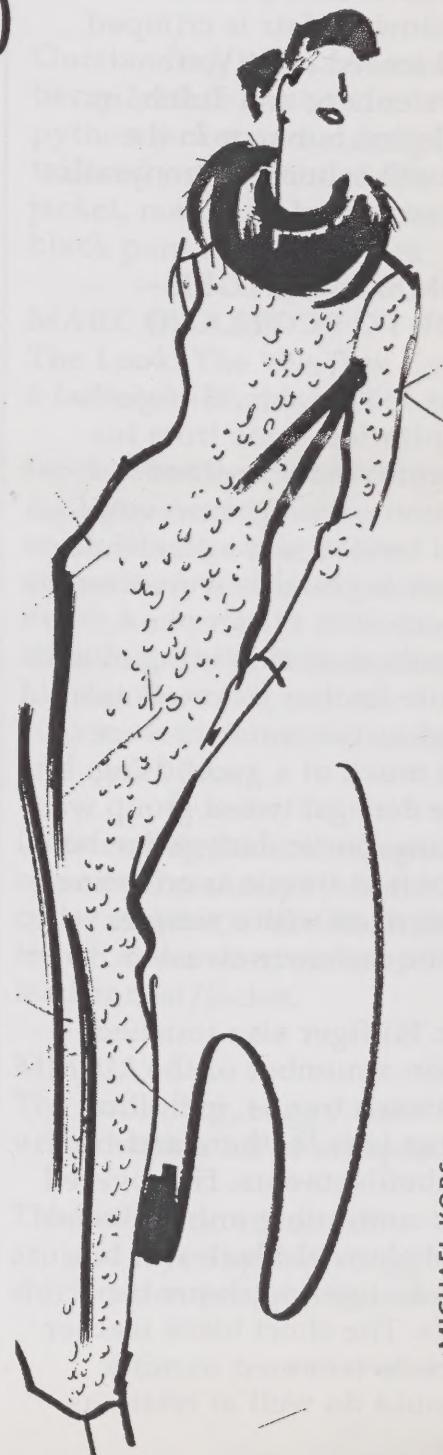
A Feel Good Fall

Glamour and excess is the mood for fall 2000 with the fashion spectrum encompassing everything from patrician perfection to '80s style glitz and edgy experimentation. However, designers achieve a common ground with their

unabashed mix of luxurious materials.

One designer who knows how to juxtapose minimal designs with maximum ornamentation is **VIVIENNE TAM**. Her orientalism is mixed with feminine, sensual silhouettes. She scrambles scroll brocades and floral embroideries with pearlized leather and faux fur. The collection

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MICHAEL KORS

taupe. Shadows range from pale for a nude look, to a darker more sultry shade. Hair is sleek and precisely parted, and straight or lightly waved.

The downtown lady's hair and makeup features deep red lips and the bold use of red or charcoal colored shadows. Hair is crimped and teased as at Von Furstenberg and Tuleh, in ballerina buns, or in the smooth schoolgirl ponytails at Jacobs.

TOMMY HILFIGER— ODE TO SCOTLAND

This season, Mr. Hilfiger's inspiration came from his recent trip to Scotland: leathers, donegal tweeds and tartans were plentiful. Show highlights were those pieces with tartan plaid details as in the lining of a white leather jacket. Bicolored tartan trousers were too much of a good thing. The donegal tweed group was strong, particularly when he kept it as simple as an A-line skirt worn with a simple white cashmere sweater.

Mr. Hilfiger also touched upon a number of the season's trends, including some luxe leathers and fur embellishments. He covered the continuing animal trend and showed black and tan suede tiger applique trousers. The short black leather jackets trimmed in mink should do well at retail, as

will the terrific shiny black leather pointed toe boots. For evening, the black suede beaded diamond trousers had a decidedly rock-and-roll look. Also for evening were looks that touch on the "preppy with a twist" that is signature Hilfiger. A red and white tartan leather applique A-line skirt combined preppy and rock-and-roll. More traditional are the red cashmere turtleneck, tartan ball skirt and scarf. The black silk chiffon with beaded tartan trim — perfect for a black tie holiday party.

DIANE VON FURSTENBERG — SEXY DRESSING

Designer Diane Von Furstenberg stayed true to the dresses that made her famous but ventured out in other directions as well. There were the signature silk jersey dresses that everyone loves, cut into slip dresses; and long sleeved wraps. She jazzed things up with a bold color palette, incorporating pumpkin orange and some great lemon yellow accents and wild galactic-inspired prints. Sexy fur and leather accents added to the '70s party girl look. Outerwear options were varied: a fitted leather teal 3/4-length coat, or a gray fur stole could be worn over a blue and brown twig print dress. For black tie, there's a black satin cocktail dress with a keyhole front.

Ms. Von Furstenberg shows

that she can also excel in sportswear. Pants are just as sexy; particularly the gray tweed and the navy satin hip huggers, worn with a sky blue and lavender amoeba printed shirt with a rosette-covered button. Heels were sky high, strappy, and matched their outfits.

TULEH — FEMININTY WITH A CAPITAL "F"

For fall 2000, the design duo at Tuleh introduced a variety of era references, drawing on the '70s, '80s, and '90s. The result was clothing that is feminine and unique. The Tuleh woman is a lady, but not in the strict sense of the Kors or Blass woman. Instead of the monochromatic suit, Tuleh's woman wears a charmingly offbeat mixture of pieces like a zebra chiffon blouse, tweed skirt and black mink jacket. Teased hair with lacquered burgundy lips and red eye shadow played up the bold and sexy clothing. Skirt lengths hit just above the knee, jackets were short and boxy, and pants were ultra-fitted and cropped. Fur was plentiful and often added an unexpected bad girl twist to straitlaced tweeds. One-shouldered dresses look great, whether in red or in a zebra print, accessorized with long trailing scarves. If a woman's in the mood for pattern, Tuleh has a green and red floral dress with a flirty ruffle neckline. There's also some lamé for late day or evening.

MENSWEAR - FALL/WINTER 2000

The Trends:

- Leathers, crocodile-look leathers, shiny buttery leathers
- Brown as a new neutral
- Burgundy, green, red, purple, yellow
- Plaids, argyles
- Cardigans
- Shirt, tie and sweater combinations
- Hip hugger pants
- Continued use of rich fabrics

The Designers:

BCBG MAX AZRIA

The Look: The Country Squire and The Motorcyclist

Plaids and tweeds galore in a brown, tan, and bronze color palette. There were twists, like a pair of bronze leather pants and blazer. Mr. Azria showed some nubby knits and big mufflers that went well with his comfortably slouchy tweed and plaid trousers.

Outstanding items: A speckled brown pullover with baby blue stripes on the arm and brown leather whip stitch detail at the neck and hem, and a cream and suede Jodhpur suit.

KENNETH COLE

The Look: Clothing for the "clothed minded" man

At the end of the day, Mr. Cole has a realistic idea of how most men probably



want to dress: put together with a little bit, but not too much, of a fashion edge. In his sportier line, layering and hooded tweed coats, white dress shirts with skinny black ties, unexpected red coat linings and leather car coats were fundamental. Low slung hipster pants ease-up around the leg and the olive and black leather pants looked best when broken up with fabric

pieces. In the Kenneth Cole Collection, there were tighter, more tailored silhouettes with a dressier feel. The black and gray fitted suits appear with wool or leather pullovers over white shirts and skinny leather ties.

Outstanding items: A cranberry leather car coat, a python jacket and a sharply tailored pressed crocodile jacket, matching briefcase, black pant and turtleneck.

MARC JACOBS

The Look: The '60s film star à la Robert Wagner

Jacobs was first with this cool guy mod '60s/'70s ensemble of a dress shirt and skinny tie tucked underneath a sweater or shrunken slim suit. Here, suits button high at the neck and the color palette is brown, camel and cadet blue.

Outstanding items: a sumptuous camel cashmere v-front collar sweater, a terrific khaki trench and a short caramel leather coat/jacket.

MECCA

The Look: Big, baggy and urban with a lot of attitude.

The collection revolved around layering with baggy shirts worn over turtlenecks,

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MARC JACOBS - LUXE LIBRARIAN

JACOBS stands apart with clothes whose details give them that edge that makes them more than just luxury clothing. This season, these details were jackets that closed off-center, brass loops on jackets and sweaters, cropped pants and pointy flats, "sensible pumps" and high-heeled mid-calf boots. Purses were small and boxy, resembling small lunchboxes.

Jacobs' models looked like posh librarians who dress in only cashmere and fur. There was a cashmere tweed herringbone shift worn over a back cashmere turtleneck with low-heeled pumps, schoolgirl ponytails and minimal make-up. Especially appropriate for this season, but certainly a classic to keep in one's closet forever, is the knee length camel hair skirt suit reminiscent of '60s Jacqueline Kennedy.

Coats are always strong at Jacobs, and this season is no exception. Sure to be a favorite was his oatmeal cashmere tweed wrap coat embellished with a broad fur collar and soft leather belt. There was a pretty Libertiesque black and red floral print that looked great as a laminated raincoat or as a long sleeved shirt paired with a red A-line skirt.

For evening there was an

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TULEH

interesting eyelet shift dress with leather grommets worn by model Erin O'Connor. Another alternative was a shredded ruffle/millefeuille '50s dress in lavender or slate blue.

MICHAEL KORS - "MINNIE THE MOOCHE" GOES UPTOWN

The wealthy New York zip code title of his collection, "10021," pretty much says it all. There was fur and cashmere galore. Mr. Kors was right at home in the uptown lady fashion moment. As opposed to his ultra sexy spring show, hemlines were sedately knee length and hair was pulled back into the restrained buns reminiscent of Tippi Hedren's character in "The Birds."

Red nail polish added a '50s touch too. The color palette was neutral toned, incorporating black, gray and camel. Especially notable was a cream and gray argyle bathrobe wrap coat with a brown mink collar. The dove gray pencil skirt and matching 3/4 length coat with a huge Mongolian fur collar worn with a silk blouse with an open neck was classic Kors.

For cocktails, there was a black scoop neck cashmere tee and red wrap skirt trimmed in black leather and set off with a thin diamond belt and mink collar muff. For evening, diamond belts also encircled the waists of gowns in gold, platinum or black Lurex.

gets off to a great start with a group in cream, chocolate and gold. Standouts include Tam's chocolate embroidered coat, her cream embroidered velveteen coat over gold leather pants and the gold sequin crochet shell with brocade embroidered skirt. Tam's finale is equally strong with a group of fur trimmed magenta brocades and a dazzling sequined ombre dress in wine underneath a burgundy leather coat.

Last season **MICHAEL KORS** went the "Palm Bitch" route, but now his sophisticated ladies are all about big city glamour. In his homage to NYC, Kors proposes polished dressing that starts off with lunch at Swifty's, cocktails at the Carlyle and ends with dinner at the Four Seasons. He piles on the luxe – from fox stoles and Borsalino fedoras to a profusion of pearls at the neck and wrist. Kors believes that grownups can be as sassy as Generation X, and he proves it time and time again with intricate geometric beading and embroideries. A black charmeuse blouse and broadtail skirt, and his Norell-inspired tweed caviar beaded cocktail dress are truly luxurious. Equally posh – the steel cashmere pullover and broadtail bugle beaded chevron skirt accessorized with a silver fox "doughnut."

ZANG TOI should keep the retailers happy this season with a collection reminiscent

of the high living '80s decade. He opens with a lovely violet cashmere belted coat trimmed in matching violet mink. This is shown over a ribbed turtleneck and perfectly cut silk denim bootleg pants. Zang's golden sable trimmed coat in luggage colored leather and baby camel hair "Jackie O" coat also rate high on the luxe scale. After dark, the best look consists of a black faille cutaway tuxedo with bugle beaded shawl collar atop wool/cashmere trousers, accented with a paisley beaded chiffon scarf.

DANA BUCHMAN re-energizes the classics with her use of luxury fabrics and saturated colors in a smart day-to-dinner collection. Her two-piece funnel neck top and angled mid-calf skirt in black crepe is the personification of chic, as is a fly-front double faced wool coat in soft orange (shown over pale gray pants) from the Luxe range. Sweater dressing also looks chic in Buchman's cowl neck pullover in bronze Lurex worn with a copper sequined lace skirt. Bridging the gap between career and casual dressing is the Intuition label with a lovely framboise color boucle toggle coat and skinny suede pants.

Newcomer **SERGIO DUQUE** proves he's a talent to watch with a sensuous late day collection. There are beautifully cut gowns like the

CAROLINA HERRERA



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GIRL'S RULE – A FEW NEW FACES FOR YOUNG LADIES

PLANET YUMTHING offers sweet clothing for pretty young things reminiscent of the '80s Go-Go Girl group. We liked the aqua and violet checkerboard skirt worn with a sleeveless blue cowl neck top. There were also some adorable itty-bitty red sweaters and a black A-line flounce skirt with white trim at the hem.

OP looked back to Bridget Bardot and the French Riviera of the '60s. Bardot hair and make-up, such as kohl rimmed eyes and glossy pale pink lipstick contributed to the effect, as did the head kerchiefs and colorful batik prints.

CHUCK ROASTE'S CR JEAN's reversible denim group was of particular interest, especially a reversible denim dress with an oversized pewter zipper trimmed in dark denim. Roaste showed plenty of color; working multicolored swirl patterned hose and bright green tights into his presentation.

ONE CLOTHING's younger customer has plenty of pink to choose from this fall. There's a hot pink brown and gray chiffon poncho and super tight stovepipe denims. Or she could wear the hot pink 3/4-length sleeve dress with asymmetric hem-

line and cuffs bordered in paisley satin. There were also pieces for the teen who wants an alternative to her mother's signature Chanel suit.

CAROLINA HERRERA – UPTOWN ELEGANCE

It's been a long time since we've seen such a prevalence of head-to-toe black. Even the hose was opaque black. What were consistent were the lean and sexy Herrera silhouettes and the abundant use of luxury fabrics, leather and fur.

For day, there's a 3/4-sleeve suit jacket that buttons off-center, and a fitted black skirt with a tiny trumpet hem. Model Frankie Rayder was the epitome of chic in sheer sand colored shirt and skinny jeans topped by a sumptuous full-length light brown mink coat.

It was refreshing to see some color. One of the best looks was the cream turtleneck over a red leather skirt with skinny belt, worn with black hose and sandals, and a small rectangular purse. Her leathers are great, as always, especially a pink 3/4 length coat with a large collar and pink pantsuit.

HEIDI WEISEL – GLAMOUR WITH SIMPLICITY

Ms. Weisel is well known as an eveningwear designer, but there are also some great looks for daywear. She designs clothing that is simple

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INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

April 25-27 NEW YORK
INPRINTS (Textile Prints)

APRIL 25-27 NEW YORK
PRINTSOURCE (Textile Prints)

APRIL 29-MAY 2 NEW YORK
INDEPENDENT VISIONS (Bridal)

APRIL 30-MAY 2 NEW YORK
ATLANTA MEN'S MARKET

APRIL 30-MAY 4 NEW YORK
NEW YORK BRIDAL MARKET

MAY 1-3 LOS ANGELES
INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE SHOW

MAY 3-5 BOLOGNA
LINEAPPELE (Leather, Hides,
Access.)

MAY 3-5 MONTREAL
NAFFEM (No. American Fur &
Fashion)

MAY 5-8 MILAN
MIDO (Eyewear)

MAY 7-9 NEW YORK
ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT

MAY 5-7 NEW YORK
INTERMEZZO (Immediate RTW)

MAY 7-9 NEW YORK
THE FAE (Accessories)

MAY 7-13 SYDNEY
AUSTRALIAN FASHION WEEK

MAY 8-12 NEW YORK
ACCESSORY, HOSIERY, INTIMATE
APPAREL MARKET

MAY 16-19 PARIS
INTERSELECTION
(Men's, Women's Children's RTW)

SPRING/SUMMER 2001

MEN'S/WOMEN'S
Sept. 14-22 New York

WOMEN'S SHOWS
Sept. 23-27 London
Sept. 28-Oct. 7 Milan
Oct. 8-15 Paris

platinum crepe-back satin asymmetric number, the peony pink silk faille gown with overlapping bodice and a version in canary yellow faille with silk georgette overskirt. While Duque mostly misses with the mid-calf cocktail dresses, there's a stunner in light gray with deeply plunging neckline.

VICTOR ALFARO doesn't stint on glamour. His ladies will be decked out in a fur trimmed black cardigan and cashmere pant, or a fox trimmed pink wool/silk coat, cashmere sweater and wide leg trousers in blush. There's more fur on a gorgeous champagne brocade paisley jacket juxtaposed against a simple black sweater and pant. Alfaro's relaxed chic mood continues with a goat fur jacket in grape worn with matching turtleneck and trousers in mocha Shetland.

REBECCA TAYLOR scores with one of the prettiest fall collections. She pairs an oxblood leather trench with a silk turtleneck in an "ocean" color and grape tweed bell-bottom. Also gorgeous is her pink shearling coat over citrus silk/wool pants and tweed cashmere sweater. While Rebecca's sparkle tulle ballerina skirts are best left to the very young, there's a sophisticated black sequin tuxedo skirt paired with a pink point d'esprit shirt that works perfectly. Also flawless, her sequin tuxedo

pants in pale pearl casually worn with her chunky hand knit cashmere sweater.

Completing the glamour group, **THOMAS STEINBRUCK**'s eveningwear is elegant, particularly the bias-cut ombre chiffons and his hand embroidered sequined numbers. **ANAND JON**'s collection couples southern Asian influences with a remarkable modern twist in a bone leather biker jacket shown over a double layered and embroidered A-line skirt in amber silk, and in a brown leather midriff halter paired with a long, full hip slung gold beaded skirt. Stellar are **CHRISTINA PERRIN**'s siz-

zling red beaded and embroidered chiffon gown, her "burned" sequined cocktail dresses, and the glamorous retro-inspired white rabbit wrap jacket tossed over a beaded chiffon halter and crystal beaded lace skirt. In a good looking and streamlined collection, **ESCADA SPORT**'s gorgeous brown reversible shearling jacket, orange mohair shell and gray herringbone pants, burnt orange hooded shearling coat and subtly luxurious zip-front hood in gray double faced cashmere atop a bone cashmere sweater and soft brown leather skirt are perfect.

DANA BUCHMAN



baggy pants, hooded jackets and denim.

Outstanding items: a gold floral printed jacket, a yellow and burgundy wild print jacket and twilight tees with dark navy at the top fading to the palest of blues at the hem.

MICHAEL KORS
The Look: Polished City Slicker

In keeping with the season's woman's theme of matched sets there were shirts with matching silk foulards and classic trousers, and signature Kors ultra luxurious cashmere sweaters with matching mufflers. Gray wave and argyle print vests, fur accents and a shirt reminiscent of Charlie Brown's

mustard and black shirt were all part of the blend.

Outstanding items: an all pink cashmere turtleneck and wool trouser ensemble, a sharply tailored black leather trench coat and a black three-button Chesterfield evening coat with mink collar.

MATT NYE
The Look: Sleekly dressed urban man

A neutral toned palette of mainly black and white in a collection of tailored suits, buttery black leather pieces, and narrow ties worn with both suits and sweaters.

Outstanding items: a cream and black striped V-neck twin set, a black double-breasted raised collar pea jacket, a black leather fish

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yet glamorous. She accomplishes this by paying strict attention to cut and doesn't resort to tricky details or fads. The back is an erogenous zone at Weisel. There were many open-backed, one-shoulder and strapless looks.

The show started with a strong gray grouping. For day or evening, there's a strapless dress with leather trim at the top and small bow detail. For evening, there's a one-shouldered gown held up with a leather halter string, and cut with a

high slit.

Animal continues to be hot this year. Weisel's long chiffon animal print skirt looks great with a brown fur trimmed wrap cardigan. For the bold, there's an animal halter gown. Happily, she didn't forget color — red figures prominently in the collection. A highlight was her signature cashmere cardigan with the tiniest red fur collar and ivory ball gown skirt — a look Weisel does to perfection.

scale print shirt and oversized leather shoulder bags.

TOMMY HILFIGER
The Look: Rocker Preppy

Plaids played a starring role, especially red/black/white tartan. Fuzzy mohair cardigans, black leather hipster boot-cut flares, tartan scarves and herringbone tweed pieces.

Outstanding items: tiger appliqued jeans, a pony skin city coat with fuchsia lining, a black leather blazer with red tartan lining and lapels and a burgundy alligator blazer.

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1 Year Subscription \$100.00
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VOL. XXVII No. 3
FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL

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FASHION INTERNATIONAL